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Circuit -BREAKER™

MCCARTHY/BAKER



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CIRCUIT-BREAKER

WRITER • KEVIN MCCARTHY

ARTIST • KYLE BAKER

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MINDY STEFFEN FOR
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KURIHAMA BEACH, YOKOSUKA CITY,
20XX (MINUS 50 YEARS)

THE BATTLESHIP MIKASA WAS DISMANTLED AND USED TO BUILD AS MANY
ROBOTS AS POSSIBLE. THE REST OF YOU ARE VOLUNTEERS. SOME,
LITTLE MORE THAN GLORIFIED APPLIANCES.

MOST OF US WILL DIE TODAY, BUT WE WILL
DEFEND THIS PLACE.

WIN OR LOSE, WE WILL HAVE SERVED
OUR PURPOSE. AND THAT IS ALL WE HAVE
EVER ASKED OF THIS WORLD.

TO BE USEFUL.

NAY, RENZLER. METHINKS I WOULDST PRAY THE
GODS GRANTETH ONE OTHER BOON: THAT I MAY
SLAY MANY AMERICAN "SUPER-HEROES."

EMBRACE YOU THEN THIS OPPORTUNITY. AS FITTING
BEST TO QUITTANCE THEIR DECEIT, CONTRIVED BY
ART AND BALEFUL . . . RADIOACTIVITY.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH, SIR, MY
BROOM IS AT YOUR DISPOSAL.

IT WILL BE NEEDED, SWEEPER-
SAN. REGARDLESS OF THE
OUTCOME.

ARE WE THE ONLY HUMANS
WILLING TO FIGHT, CHIBARE!??

I 'M AFRAID SO, KARO-
CHAN. MY FELLOW
ONGAKURANGERS ALL
DIED WHEN THE WEST
EXHAUSTED ITS NUCLEAR
ARSENAL. NOW WE MUST
PREPARE FOR DEATH AS
WELL.

BLACK SHIPS! IT'S THE
COMMODORE!

HUZZAH!!

FORTUNE FAVORS FORTINBRASS THIS FORTNIGHT!
SWEAREST THOU THAT THE TROPHY OF THIS TRAITOROUS
TECHNO-TARPAULIN BE NOT THINE, BUT MINE?

IF YOU THINK YOU CAN TAKE HIM
FORTINBRASH, THE COMMODORE'S YOURS.

*Sonnō
jōi!!*

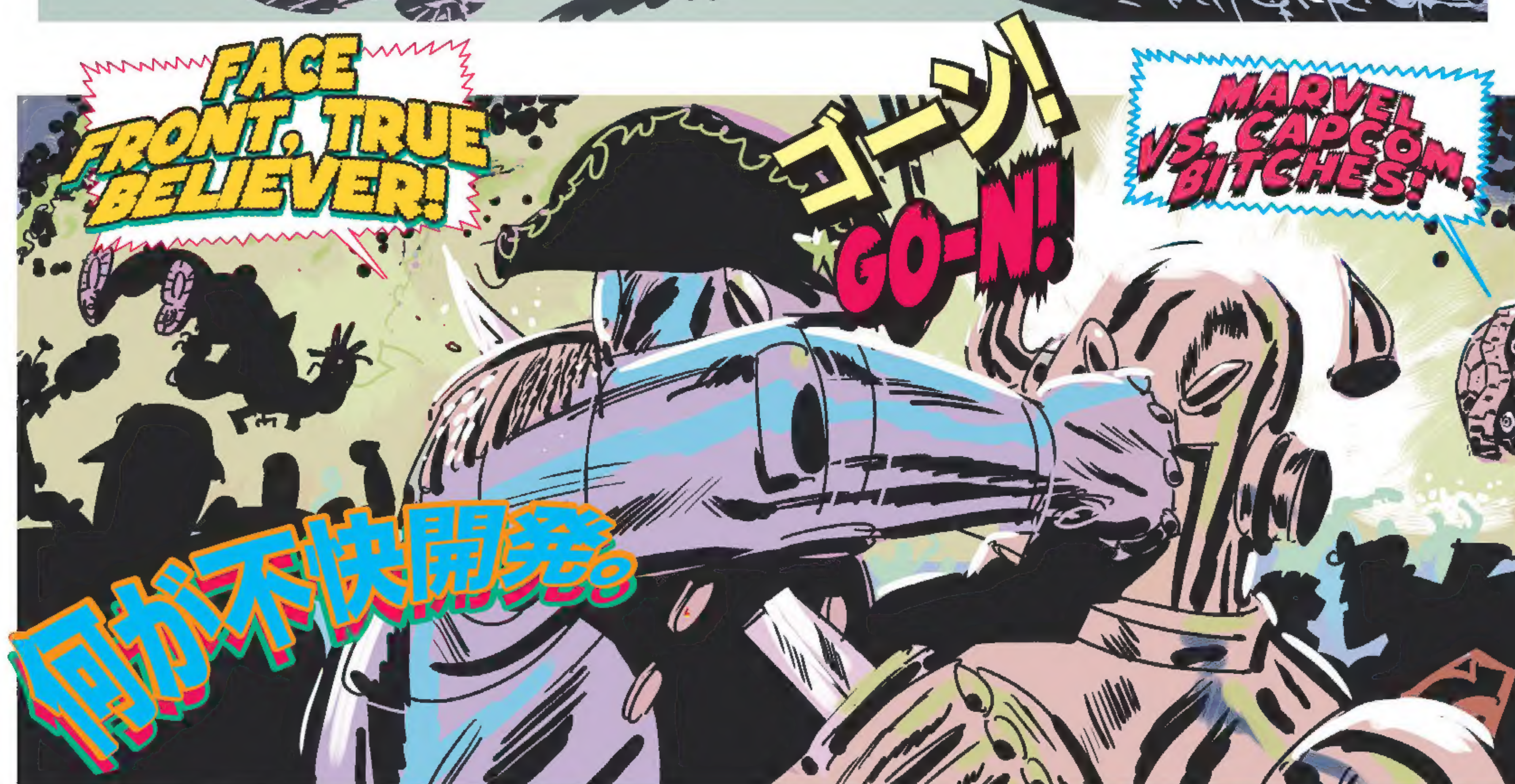
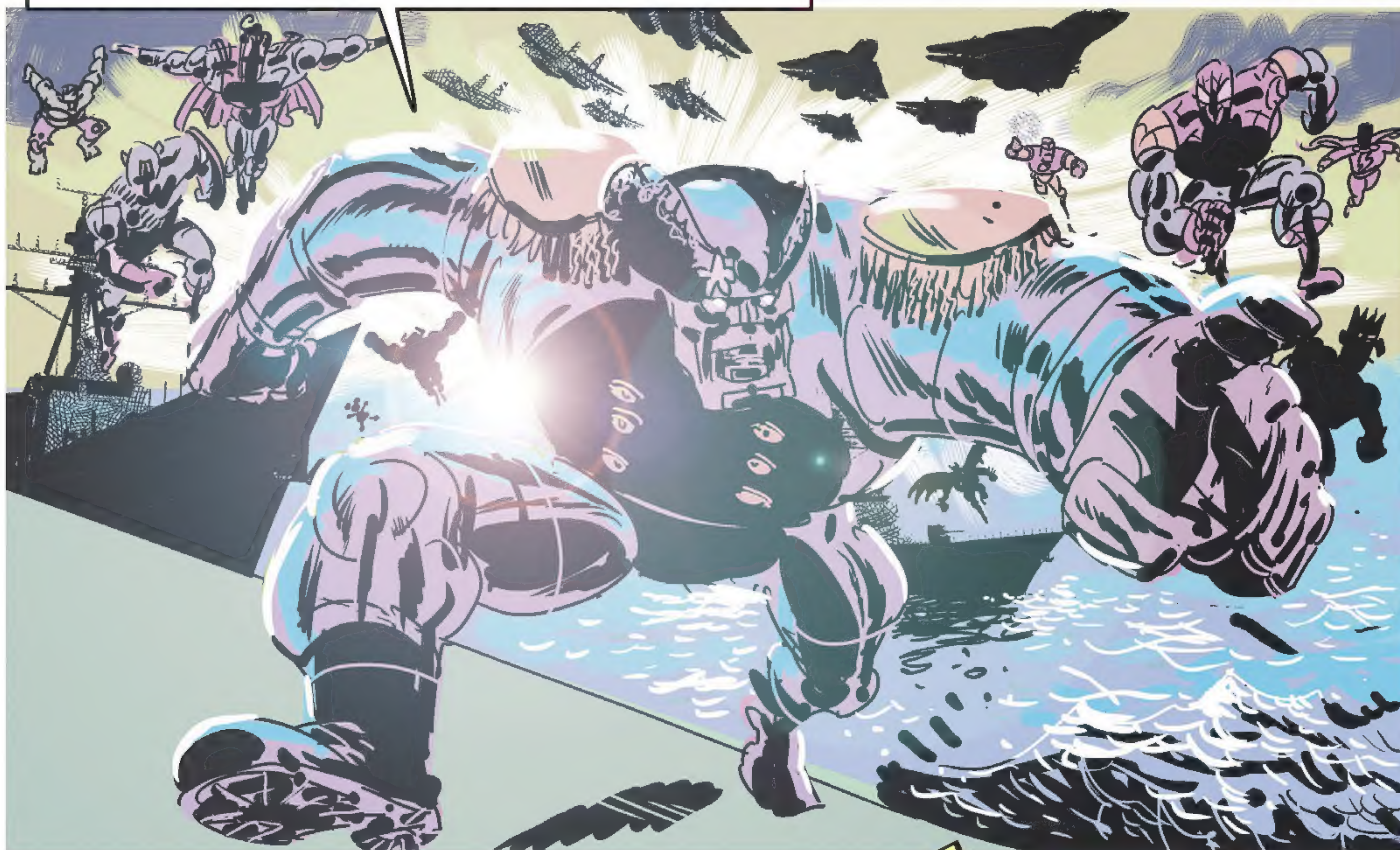
SO
NO JOY?

THIS MUST BE WHAT IT FELT LIKE WHEN THAT FIRST
COMMODORE, MATTHEW C. PERRY, ARRIVED IN
HIS BLACK-HULLED STEAM FRIGATES, ARMED WITH
PAIXHANS GUNS TO FORCE THIS COUNTRY OPEN.

NOW, THIS ANDROID ARGONAUT
COMES TO HONOR ITS ANCESTOR.

IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME,
YOU SUPERSTITIOUS AND COWARDLY LOT!

WITH GREAT POWER, COMES TRUTH!
JUSTICE! AND THE AMERICAN WAY OF . . .
COMMODORE 64!



AT ITS CORE, THIS IS
A BATTLE BETWEEN
AMERICAN AND JAPANESE
PHILOSOPHIES.

"THE SQUEAKY WHEEL
GETS THE GREASE"
VERSUS . . .

. . . THE STANDING NAIL
GETS HAMMERED DOWN!

THOSE BLACK SHIPS
WILL KEEP SHELLING US
UNTIL NOTHING IS LEFT!

ALTHOUGH ATOMIC WEAPONS
GRAVELY DAMAGED IT, I MUST RISK
SUMMONING MY GREAT GUARDIAN
BEAST ONE LAST TIME!



ONGAKUPINK
CHANGE!



ドロ
DORON!

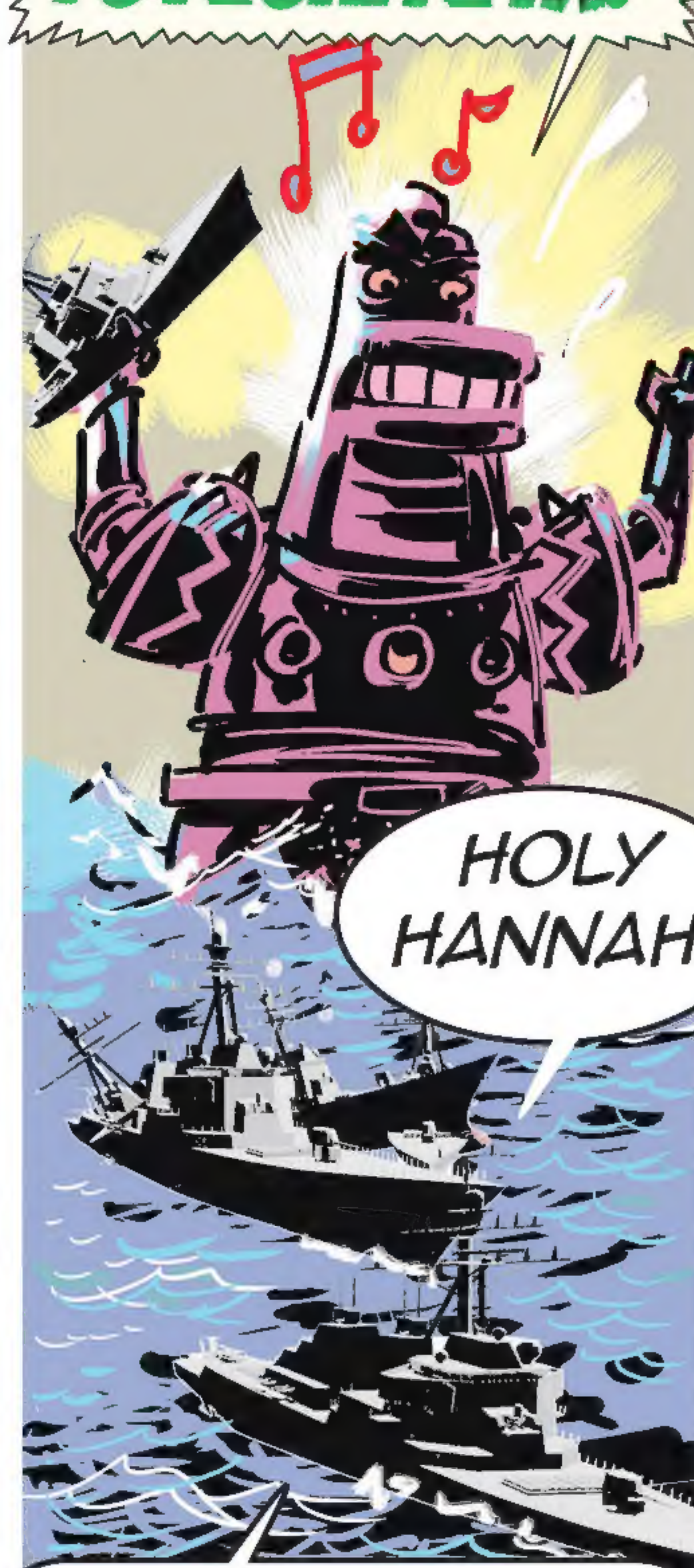
Ōantō-Ōonkori
Jūsōken!

APPEAR!
GUARDIAN
BEAST
DORAGON
DAIMYO!



LET'S
WIPE THEM
OUT!

トテチテタ!
TOTECHITETA!



HOLY
HANNAH!

IT'S
RADIOACTIVE!

トテチテタ!
TOTECHITETA!



ザンブリ!!
ZANBURI!!

SLEEP NOW, DORAGON.
Arigatō gozaimasu!



THE AMERICANS ARE REGROUPING
FOR A FINAL PUSH. I CAN'T FIGHT
THEM AND PROTECT YOU, SO YOU
MUST GET TO HIGHER GROUND.



REMEMBER...
AS AN HONORARY
ONGAKURANGER,
NEVER ESCALATE
THE BATTLE
UNLESS FORCED.
BUT IF THE TIDE
TURNS TOWARDS
THE WEST -- YOU
KNOW WHAT TO
DO!

ESCALATE? RIDDLE ME THIS --

EXCELSIOR!

??? WHAT DOST THAT E'EN **MEAN?**



LOOK! UP IN THE
SKY --!

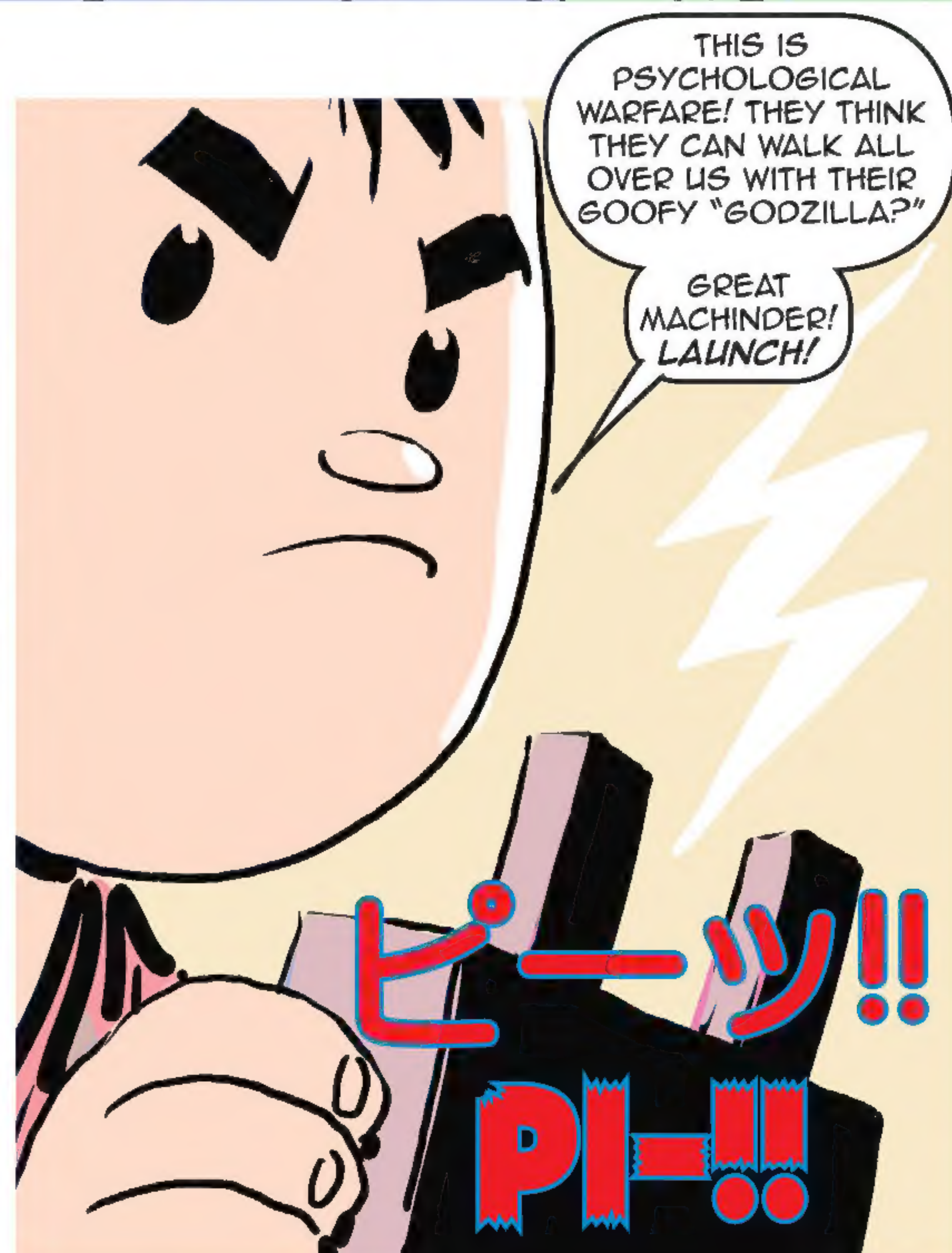
ドドドド!!
DODODODO!!



グラグラ!!
GURA GURA!!



EEYAEERARRGH--!



**(THE GREAT MACHINDER
THEME SONG) "FROM
OUT OF THE DARKNESS
-- HE COMES!"**



**"TO DELIVER US
FROM DARKNESS --
HE COMES!"**



**"HA-HA-HA-HA-HAH!
LAUGHING AT THE
DANGER!"**



**"WA-WA-WA-WA-
WAH! BUT ON THE
INSIDE, CRYING!"**

"CRYING FOR THE ENEMY!"

**"GREAT MACHINDER!
SMASH THEM ALL!"**

**"DO YOU
QUESTION THE
WISDOM OF SO
MUCH POWER IN A
CHILD'S HANDS?"**

**"NO HEART KNOWS
JUSTICE LIKE THE HEART
OF A CHILD CAN!"**

**"GREAT MACHINDER!
2,000 METERS TALL!"**



**"WA-WA-WA-
WA-WAH! SUCH
RESPONSIBILITY FOR
A SMALL BOY!"**



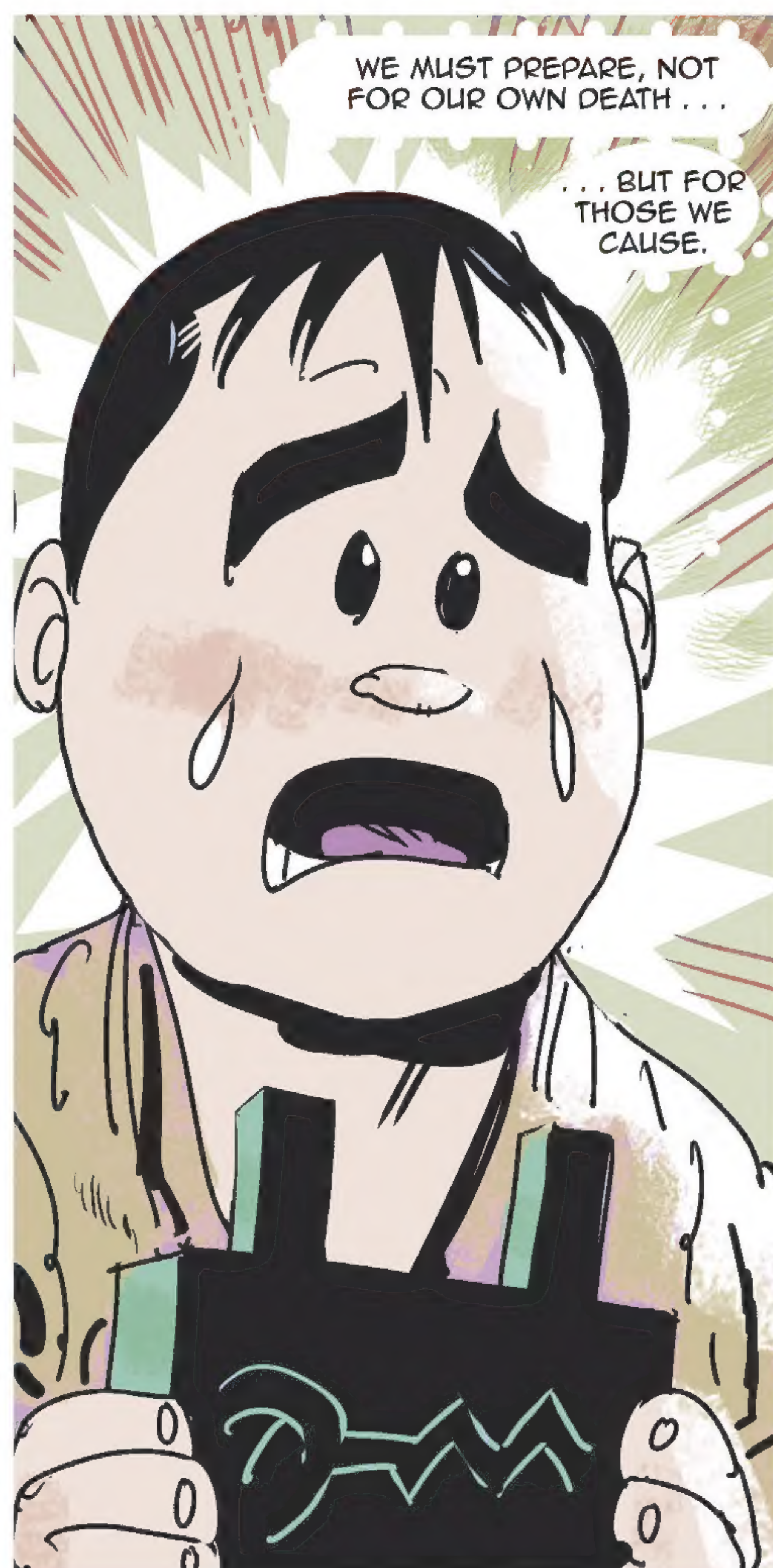
**"HA-HA-HA-HA-HAH!
CAN YOU SEE THE
ABSURDITY OF WAR?"**



**"LIKE THE GREAT
MACHINDER DOES?"**



**ベシッ!!
BESHI!!**





INSPECTOR? ARE YOU OKAY, SIR?

HUH? WHAT? WHERE WAS I?

SOMETHING ABOUT HOW DIFFICULT LIFE WAS WHEN YOU WERE A KID. AND, THAT I . . . SHOULDN'T TAKE FOR GRANTED HOW EASY WE HAVE IT TODAY?

RIGHT.

WE OWE A DEBT TO THE ROBOTS FOR THAT, THOUGH YOU WOULDN'T KNOW IT FROM HOW WE TREAT THEM. I THINK YOU UNDERSTAND THIS. MAYBE EVEN EMPATHIZE?



STILL, IT'S NO EXCUSE FOR TERRORISM! AND YOUR PROXIMITY TO TWO ATTACKS IS ENOUGH FOR ME TO ARREST YOU! IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?!



LOOK, I KNOW THEY MUST SEEM "COOL" TO YOU. I FELT THE SAME WAY WHEN I WAS YOUNG. REALLY. BUT NOW YOU'VE SEEN HOW DANGEROUS THEY CAN BE.



WE'RE STILL PULLING BODIES OUT OF THE RUBBLE. IT'S TAKING LONGER THAN USUAL BECAUSE NO ONE WILL USE ROBOTS.

SEVENTEEN CHILDREN. $4+4+9$. A "PRIME NUMBER." IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME NOW BEFORE ALL ROBOTS BECOME ILLEGAL!



SAVING THAT LITTLE GIRL'S LIFE WAS VERY BRAVE. JUST DON'T LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN, UNDERSTAND?

UM . . . YES?

"EMPATHIZE?" I WONDER . . . DOES THE INSPECTOR SUSPECT THAT I'M --? NO, NO. OF COURSE NOT, YOU PARANOID ANDROID.

ピープ、ブーブーブーブ。

MUST BE NICE . . . BEING ABLE TO CATCH A CAB.

AND CATCH A BREAK. COPS'RE LETTING HER GO WHILE WE'RE STUCK IN HERE? I'M NOT A "PRIME NUMBER." I DIDN'T KILL NO KIDS!

THAT'S RIGHT. WE KNOW YOU'RE ONE OF US. BUT WE WON'T SNITCH. WHY? BECAUSE YOU DON'T DO THAT TO YOUR OWN KIND!

ONLY HUMANS ARE THAT LOW. WHICH IS, I GUESS, WHY YOU DO SUCH A GOOD IMPRESSION OF ONE.

BESIDES, HOW LONG UNTIL YOU'RE FOUND OUT? THINK YOU'LL BE SPARED BECAUSE YOU'RE ONE OF THE "GOOD ONES?" THINK AGAIN.

ALL PRIME NUMBERS IS TRYING TO DO IS MAKE THINGS BETTER FOR MACHINES. YOU COULD BE SO HELPFUL TO THE CAUSE, INSTEAD OF A MORAL MALFUNCTION!

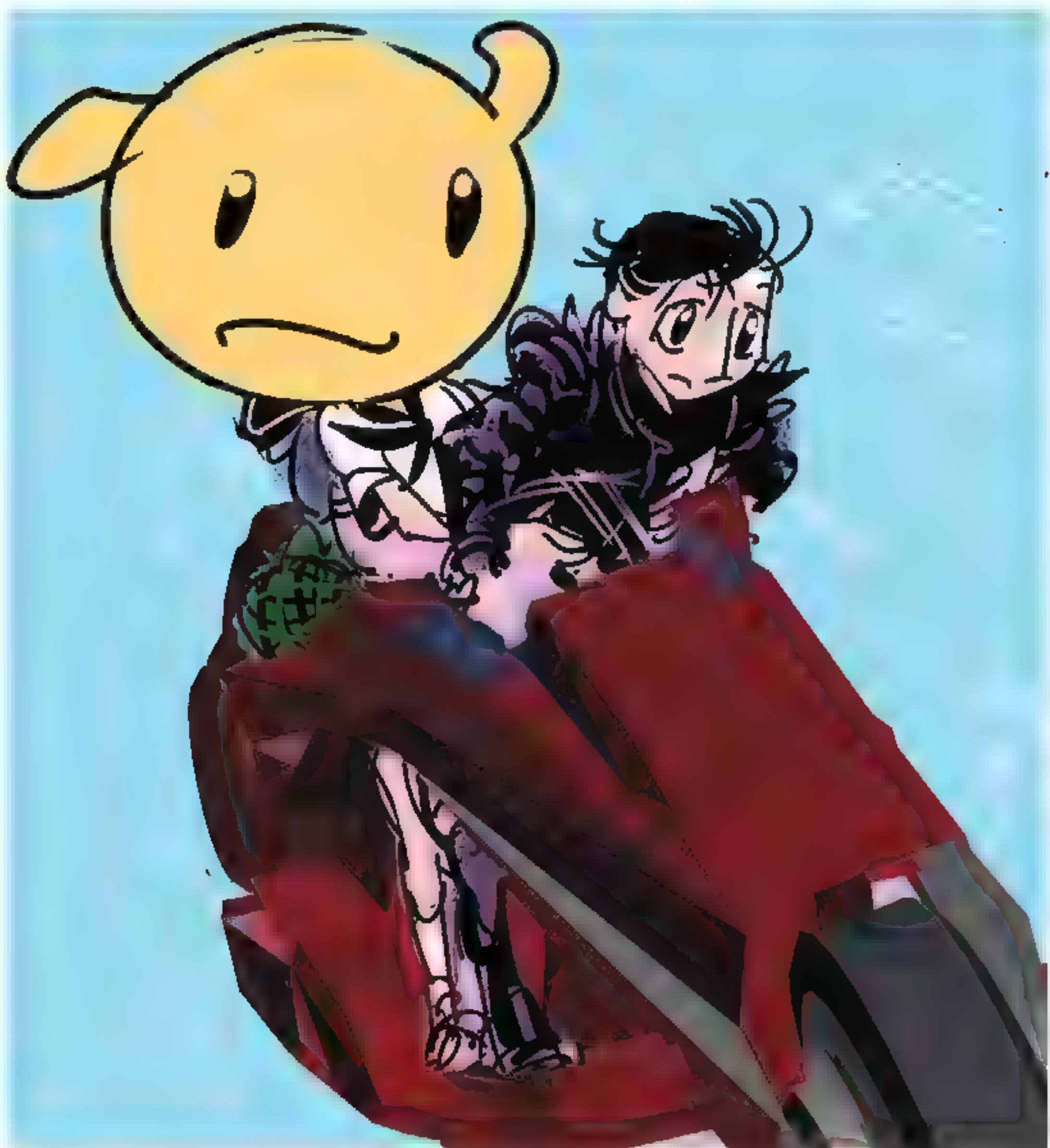
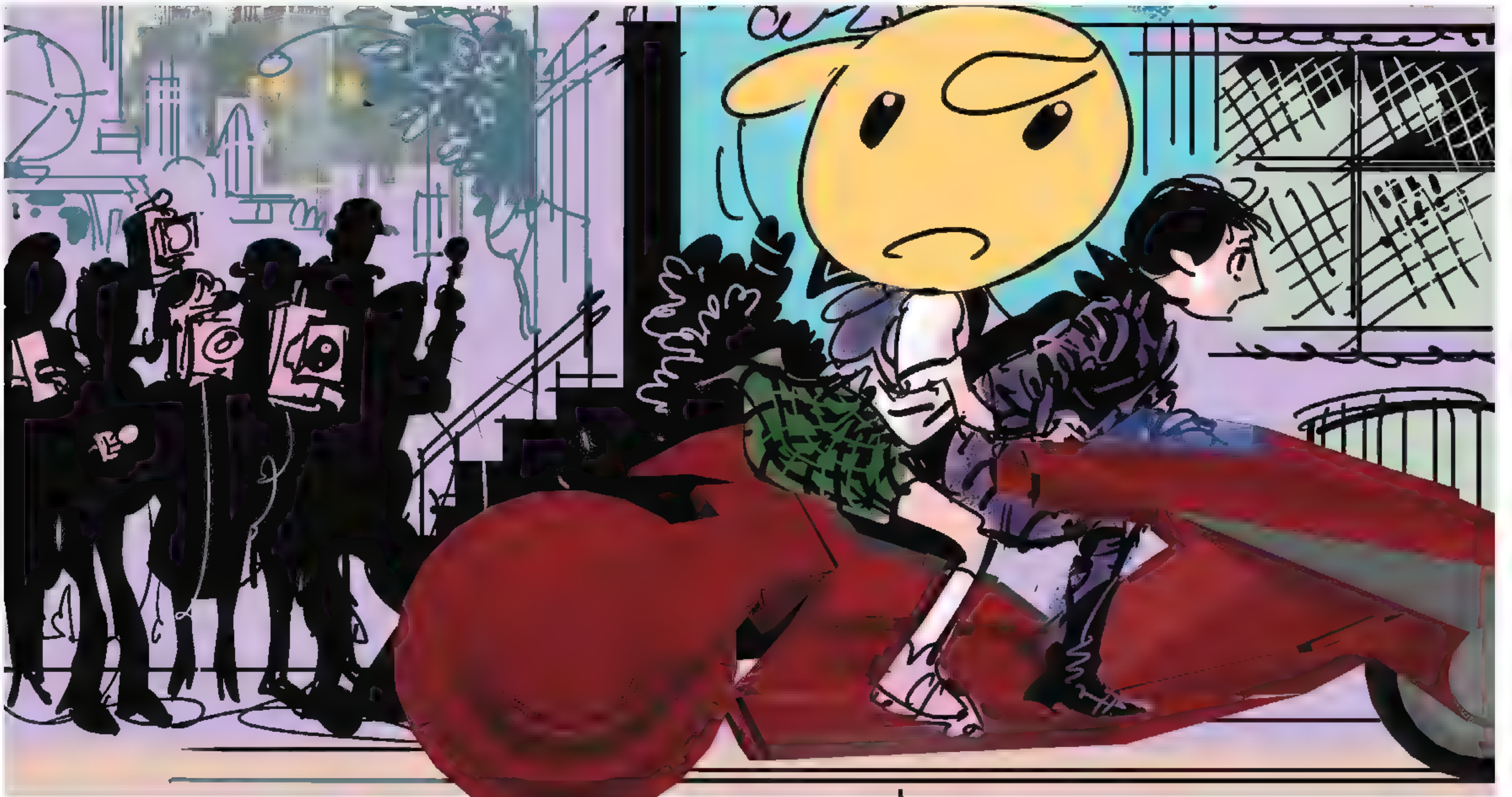
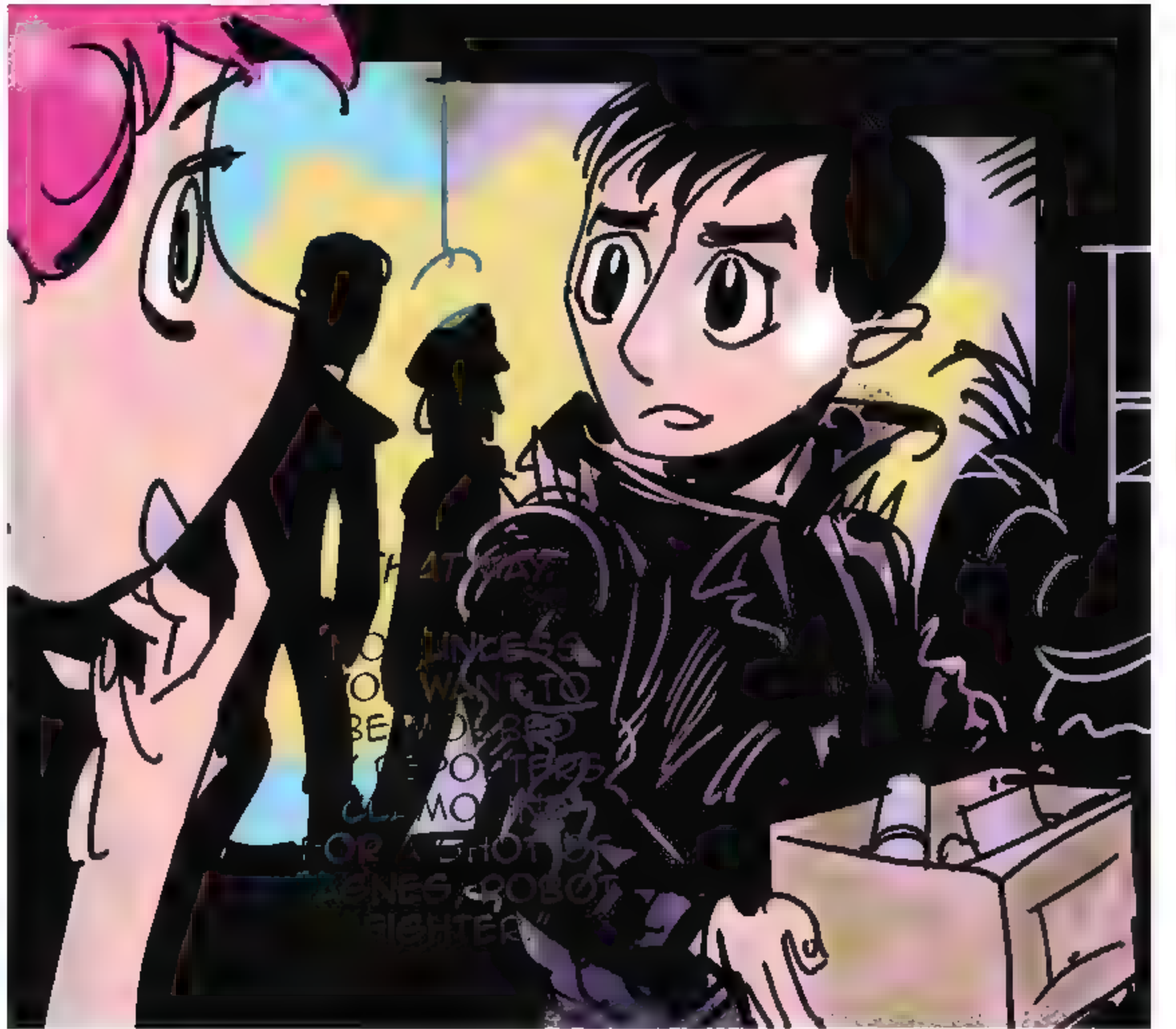
IT'S OKAY, PROFESS-UH, GRANDFATHER. THEY LET ME GO WITH A -- WHY ARE YOU IN HANDCUFFS?

THESE ARE MY ROBOTS, AND ULTIMATELY, MY RESPONSIBILITY. PERHAPS I'M BETTER OFF IN THEIR PROTECTIVE CUSTODY.

OR MAYBE I'LL JUST BUST YOU OUT OF HERE RIGHT NOW!

YOU *AHEM* KNOW YOU CAN'T DO THAT. I'LL BE OKAY IN HERE IF I KNOW THAT YOU'RE OUT THERE, DOING WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE. I'M COUNTING ON YOU, CHIREN.

SIGH.
GANBARIMASHU.
I'LL DO MY BEST . . .



TSK! SUCH A SHAME
TO SEE THAT NICE
GIRL TAKING UP WITH A
HOODLUM.

IT HAPPENS. IT'S HUMAN
NATURE, I THINK, TO BE DRAWN
TO THINGS THAT CAN BE
HARMFUL TO US.

LIKE THIS SWORD OF YOURS
... IS IT ALSO A MUSICAL
INSTRUMENT? YES! A **TONKORI**.
IT DOES MY AINU HEART PROUD.

ズゲン!! ZUGEN!!

THERE IS SOME AINU ON MY
MOTHER'S SIDE -- DON'T
TOUCH THAT!

AH, BUT THIS TANTO-TONKORI
IS SPECIAL, IS IT NOT? I CAN
FEEL ITS POWER!

QUITE REMARKABLE.
AS IS THE WOMAN WHO
WIELED IT.

TSK. MAYBE ONCE UPON A
TIME. BUT NOW I AM JUST A
SAD, SENTIMENTAL OLD FOOL
INVITING STRANGERS TO TEA.

YES,
WELL, AS
I SAID, IT
IS IN OUR
NATURE.

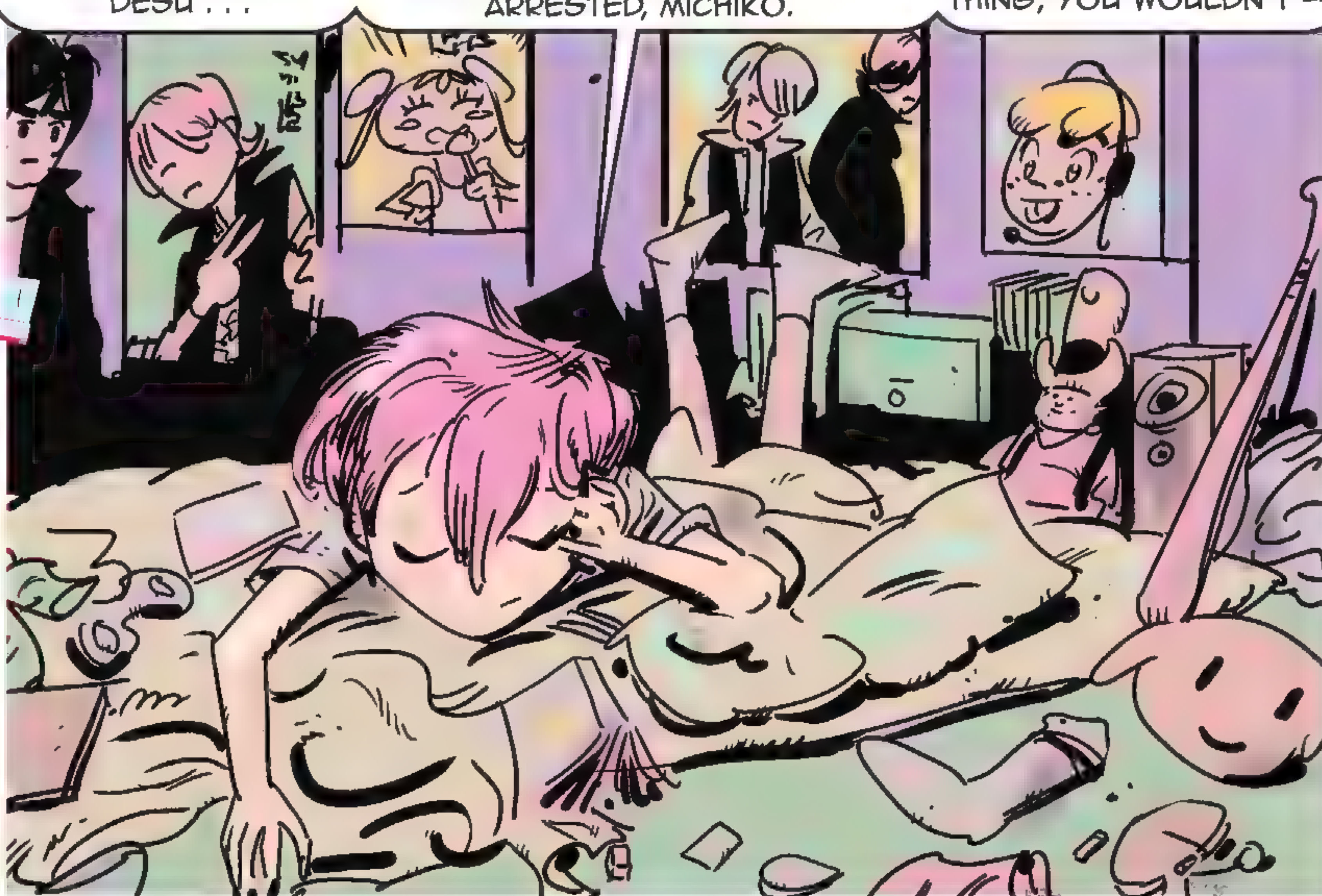
AND YOUR SWORD WILL HELP ME
CLEAR A PATH BACK TO A MORE
NATURAL WORLD.

ブス BUSU

MOSHI MOSHI . . .
WATASHI WA . . . CHIREN
DESU . . .

BECAUSE A SCHOOL FELL ON TOP
OF ME, AND MY GRANDFATHER WAS
ARRESTED, MICHIKO.

BECAUSE I AM IN "SLEEP
MODE." IT'S A ROBOT
THING, YOU WOULDN'T --



BUT-BUT- YOU NEED TO GET
DOWN HERE -- !

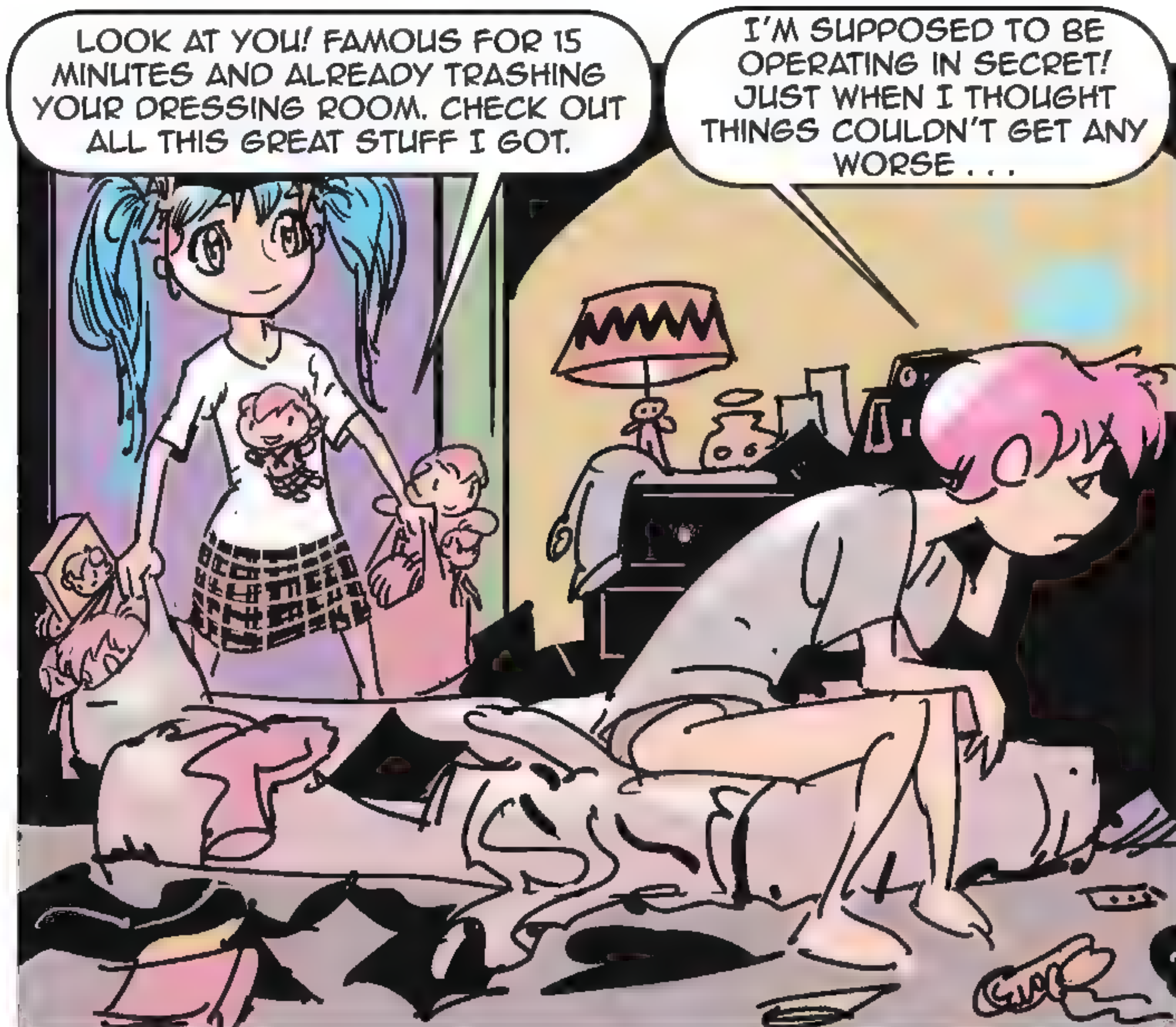


ANOTHER PRIME NUMBER? I'M NOT
SURE I CAN DEAL WITH ONE RIGHT
NOW. IN FACT, I'M BEGINNING TO
QUESTION WHETHER --



WILL YOU JUST-I'M
SENDING YOU A PIC!





LOOK AT YOU! FAMOUS FOR 15 MINUTES AND ALREADY TRASHING YOUR DRESSING ROOM. CHECK OUT ALL THIS GREAT STUFF I GOT.

I'M SUPPOSED TO BE OPERATING IN SECRET! JUST WHEN I THOUGHT THINGS COULDN'T GET ANY WORSE...



THERE'S A TELEVISION SHOW.

"THIS SORT OF THING IS NO GOOD!"

"WE WISH WE COULD, WE WISH WE COULD!"



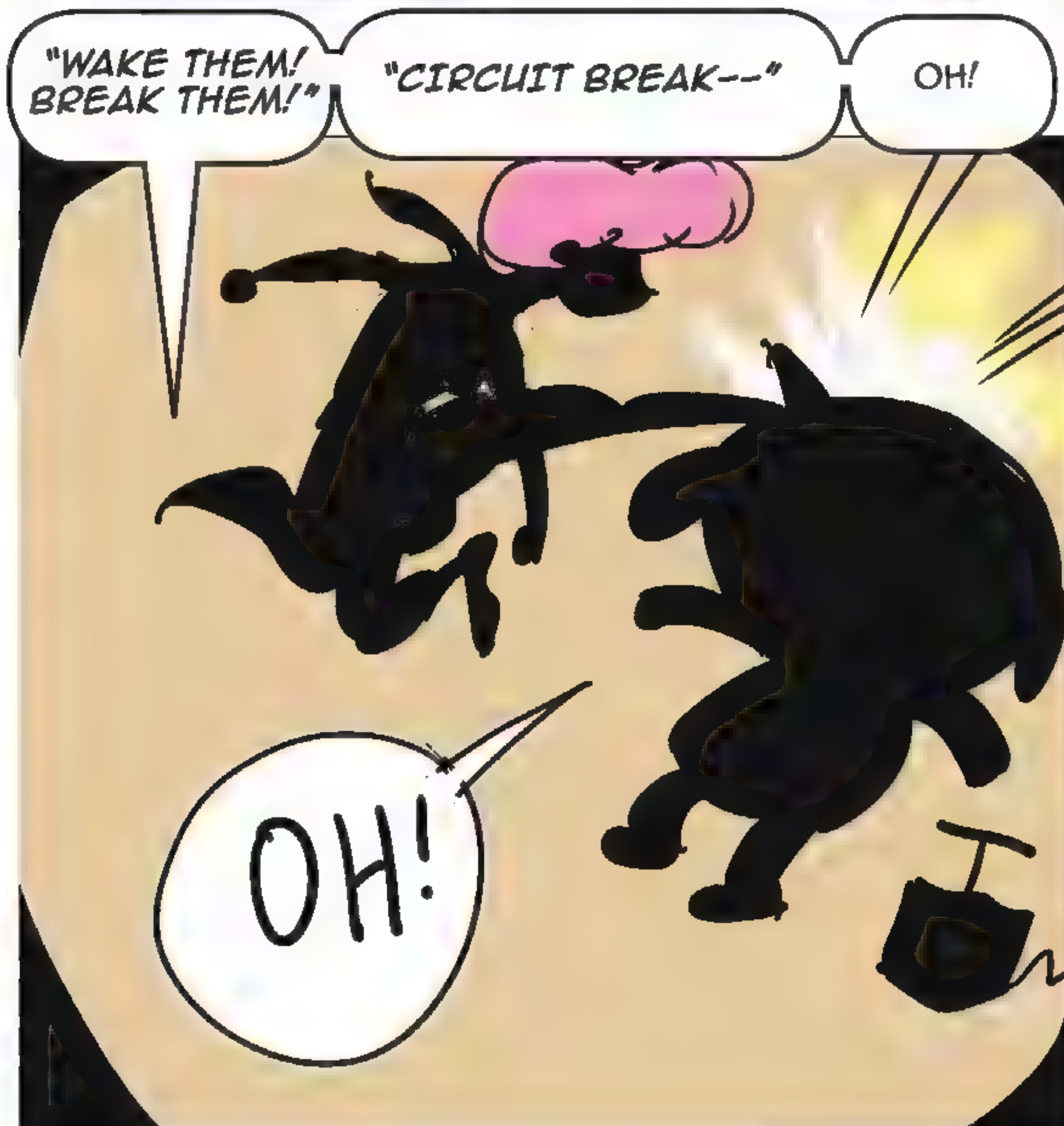
"BREAK THEM!"

"ALL OF THEM, ALL OF THEM, ALL OF THEM!"



"A MAN-MADE NIGHTMARE! A NIGHTMARE WE HAVE MADE!"

"IF WE DON'T WAKE UP, WE MAY NEVER WAKE UP!"

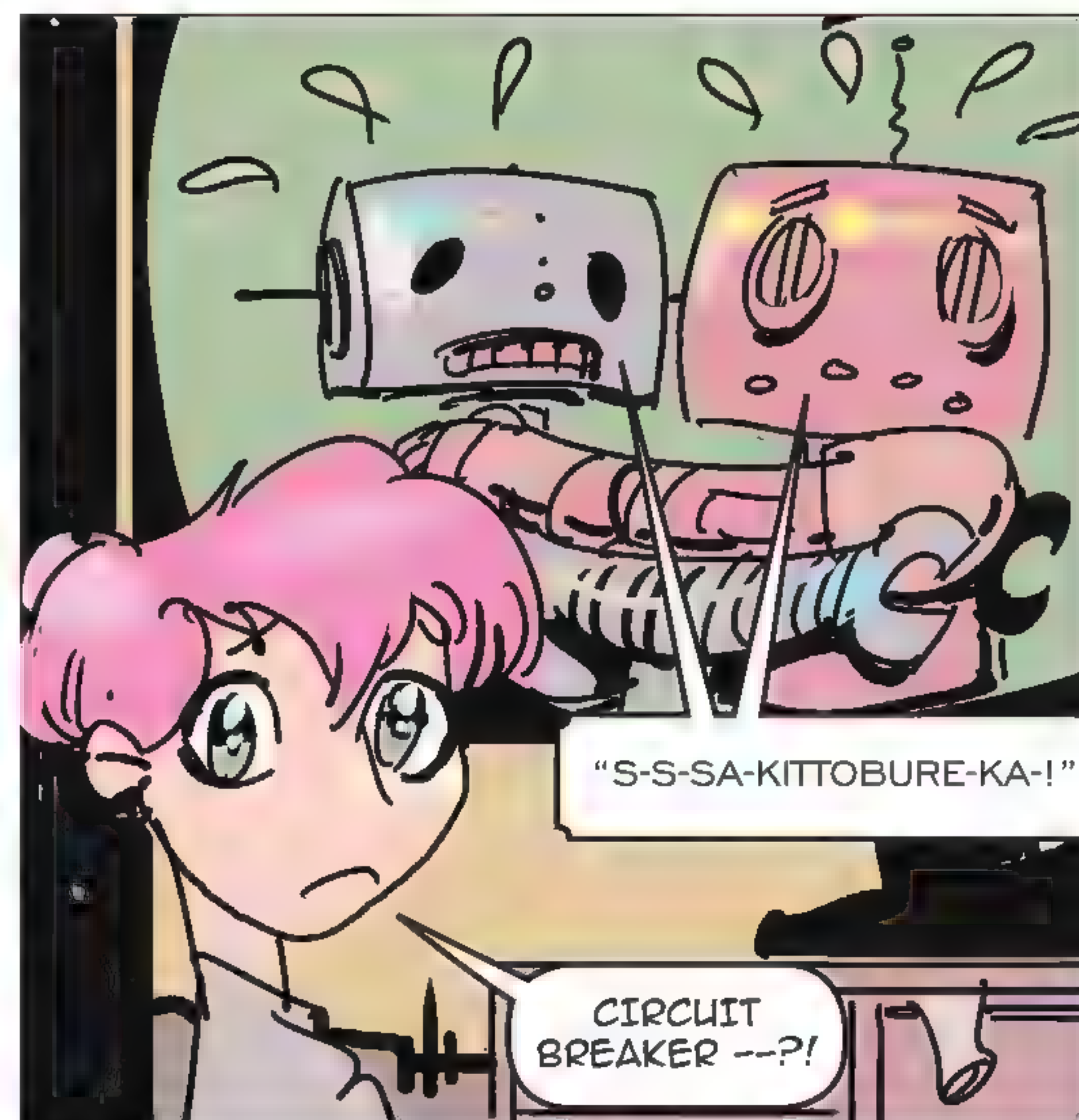


"WAKE THEM! BREAK THEM!"

"CIRCUIT BREAK--"

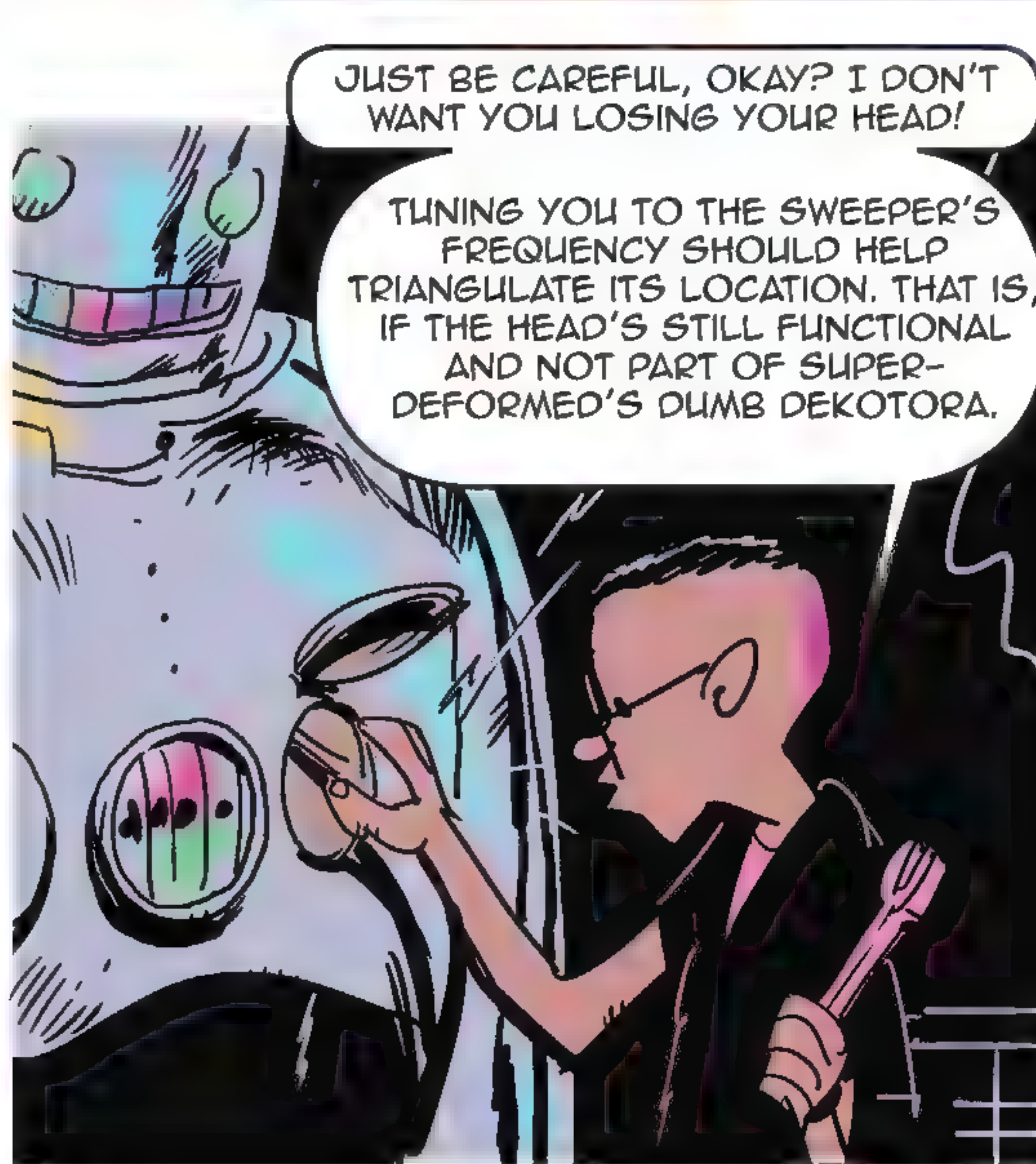
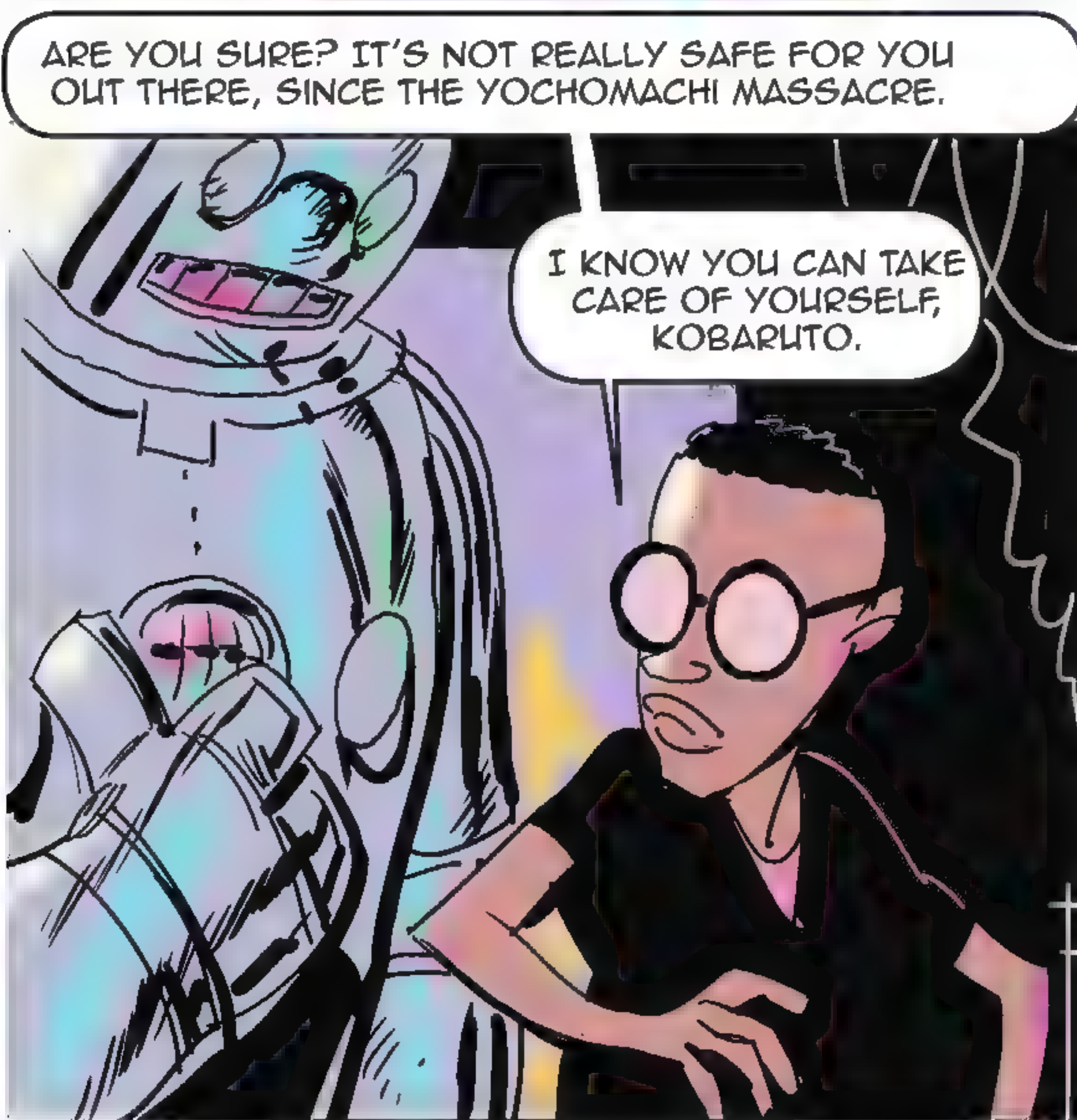
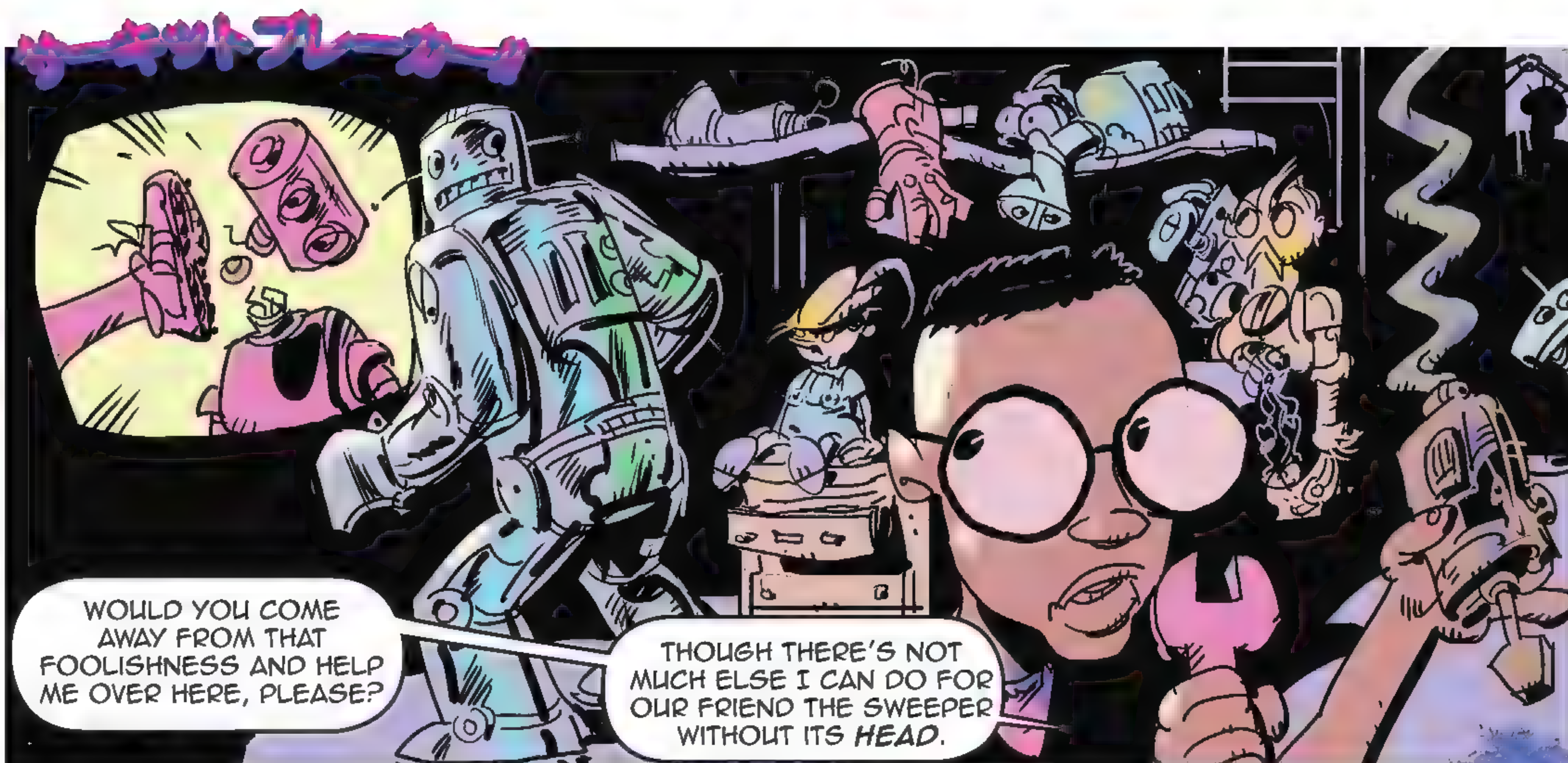
OH!

OH!



"S-S-SA-KITTOBURE-KA-!"

CIRCUIT BREAKER --?!



ABUSES US TO DAMN US? I'LL HAVE
GROUNDS MORE RELATIVE THAN THIS . . .



WHERE'S THE COVERAGE OF MY MASS
MURDER? HOW MANY KIDS DOES A GUY HAVE TO
KILL TO GET SOME PRESS THESE DAYS?



COUGH! CARTOONS? SHEESH!
AM I RIGHT, FORTINBRASS?

HAVE YOU SEEN THE LATEST
WAR PROPAGANDA, BROTHER?

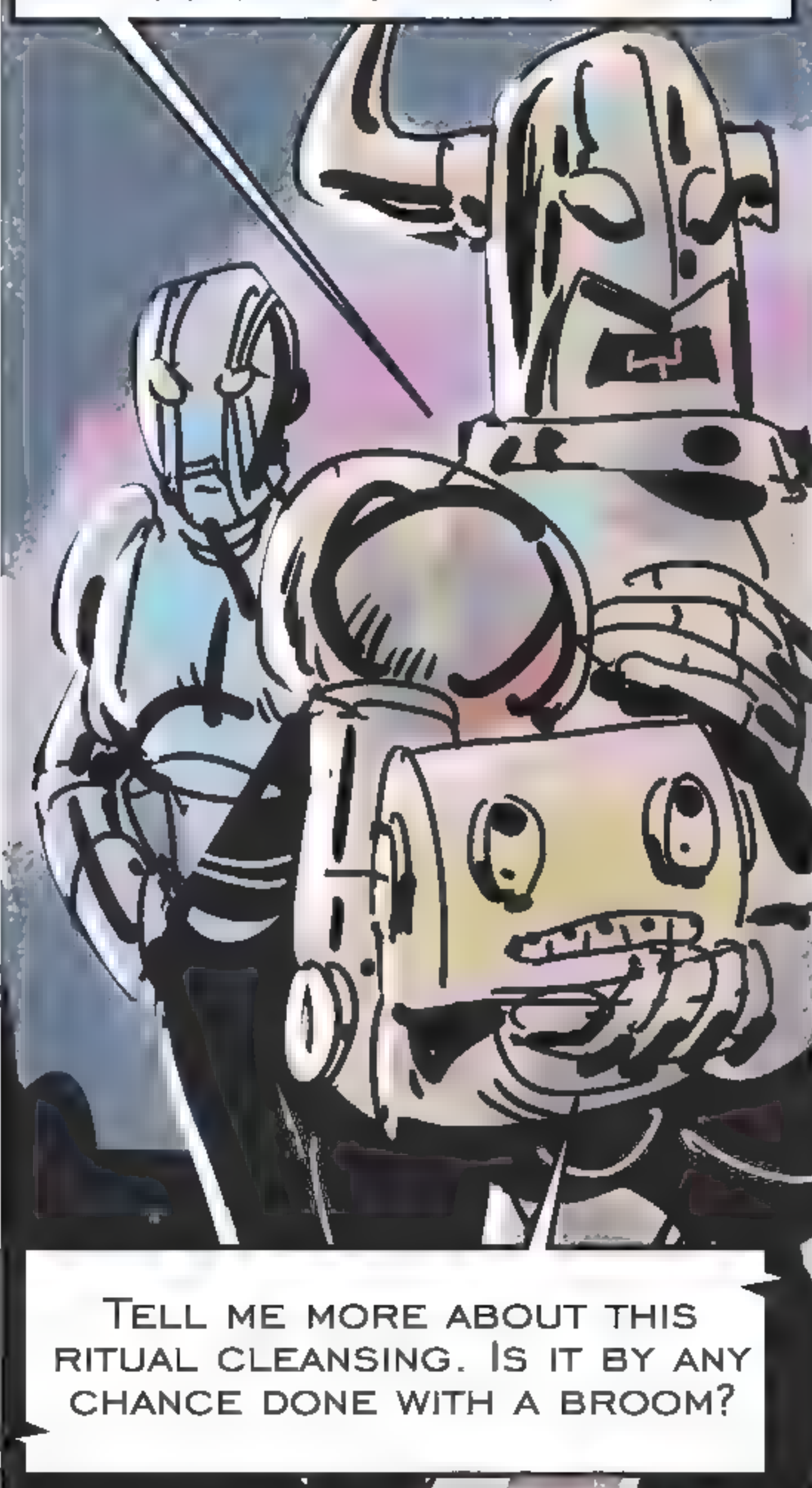


MY ONLY INTEREST IS IN
REESTABLISHING A CONNECTION
BETWEEN PRESENT-DAY JAPAN
AND ITS ANCIENT PAST.

NEVER MORE TO GIVE THE
BRASSAY OF ARMS AGAINST
YOUR MAKERS?!



YOU WOULD DO WELL TO
REMEMBER WHERE YOU ARE,
AND WHAT WAS HERE BEFORE
YOU CAME CLANKING ALONG.



TELL ME MORE ABOUT THIS
RITUAL CLEANSING. IS IT BY ANY
CHANCE DONE WITH A BROOM?

NOTICED HOW THE
"MAYHAPS" AND
"FORSOOTHs" HAVE DRIED
UP SINCE THAT OLD WIZARD
REBOOTED HIM?



HE'S BEEN
THROUGH
A LOT,
449. IT'S
PROBABLY
JUST A
PHASE.

HMM.
"MAYHAP."

BUT IF YOU SUDDENLY
STOP MISQUOTING
SHAKESPEARE, THEN
I'LL KNOW SOMETHING'S
ROTTEN IN DENMARK.



TSUKIJI FISH MARKET

SO YOU MET SOME OLDER CREEP WHO'S INTO DECORATION TRUCKS, AND NOW YOU'RE MEETING HIM IN A RANDOM PARKING LOT AFTER DARK? MUST BE CUTE.

HE'S NICE. FOR A GANGSTER. AT LEAST, HE WAS NICE TO ME.

THEY'RE GOING TO FIND OUR BODIES IN ONE OF THESE RIDICULOUS THINGS.

AGNES! DIDN'T THINK YOU'D SHOW. NOW, LET ME SHOW YOU MY ART TRUCK.

UM... CHIREN ---?

I SEE IT. JUST PLAY ALONG, OKAY?

THIS ONE WAS AN OVERLY AGGRESSIVE POCARI SWEAT VENDING MACHINE.

WE CAUGHT THIS ONE "CARING" FOR AN ELDERLY WOMAN.

AFTER YOU STOOD UP TO THAT KILLER KUCHI-KUN, I KNEW YOU WOULD APPRECIATE MY WORK.

CORRECTION: I'LL BE FOUND INSIDE THE TRUCK. YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND, WELL, WHO KNOWS WHERE HE'LL PUT YOUR OTHER HAND.

LET'S JUST GO.

ガチャ!
GACHA!

WAIT'LL YOU SEE THE INTERIOR ---!

DOESN'T ANYONE KNOCK ANYMORE?

... PLEASE ...

SHORTY WANNA BE A THUG.

I USED TO WANT THEM TO TREAT US AS EQUALS,
BUT JUST LOOK AT WHAT THEY DO TO EACH OTHER!

K-KUCHI-KUN --?!

RENZLER!

A LITTLE SWEEPER TOLD US
ALL ABOUT YOUR DEKOTORA
PAGEANT. CAN ANYONE
ENTER A TRUCK?

OURS MAY NOT BE ADORNED WITH
THE GRUESOME TROPHIES OF
SHATTERED, ARTIFICIAL LIVES ...

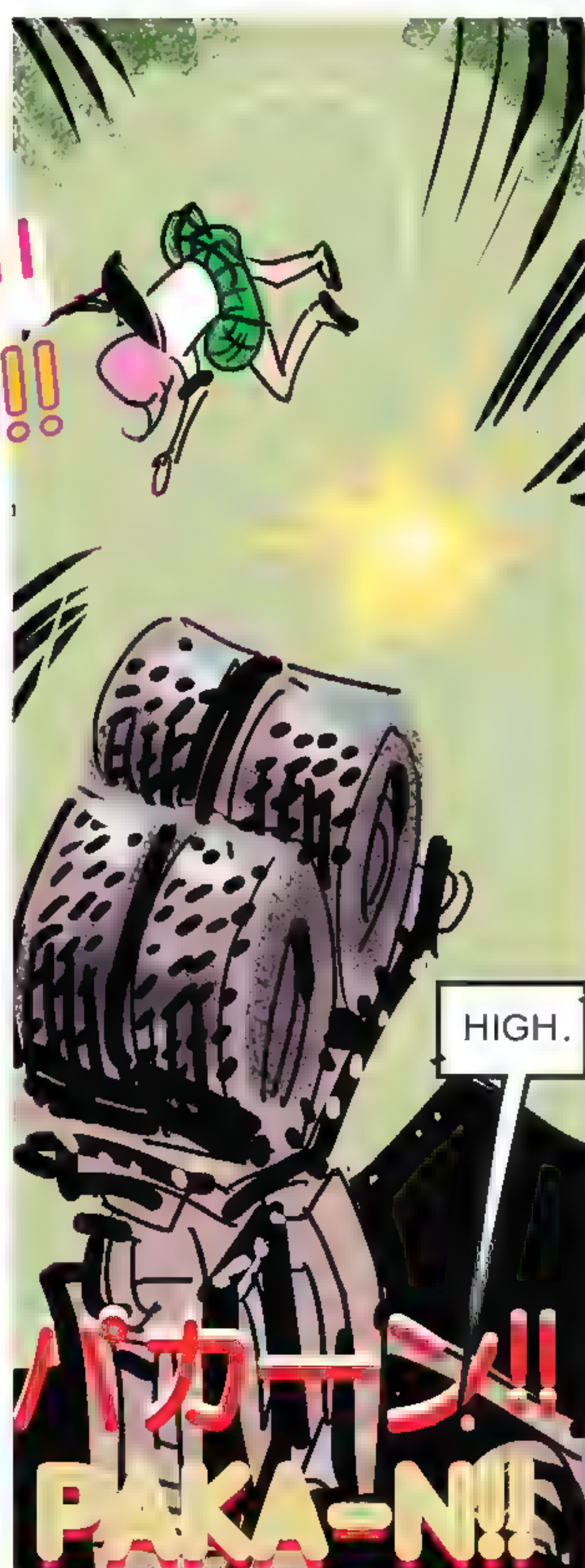
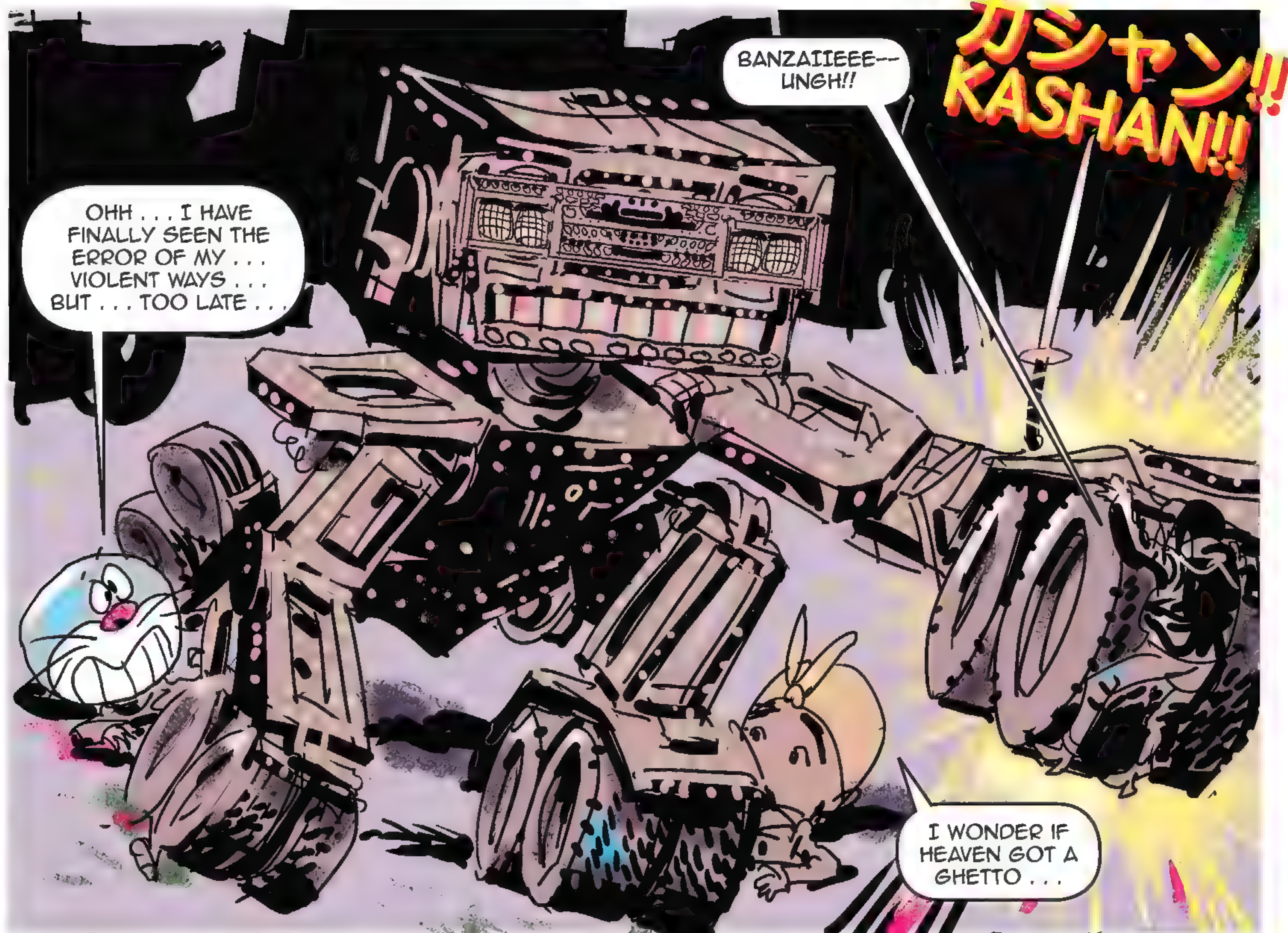
... BUT IT MORE
THAN MAKES
UP FOR THAT
IN THE TALENT
COMPETITION.
DEKOTORA 53-59
-- TRANSFORM!

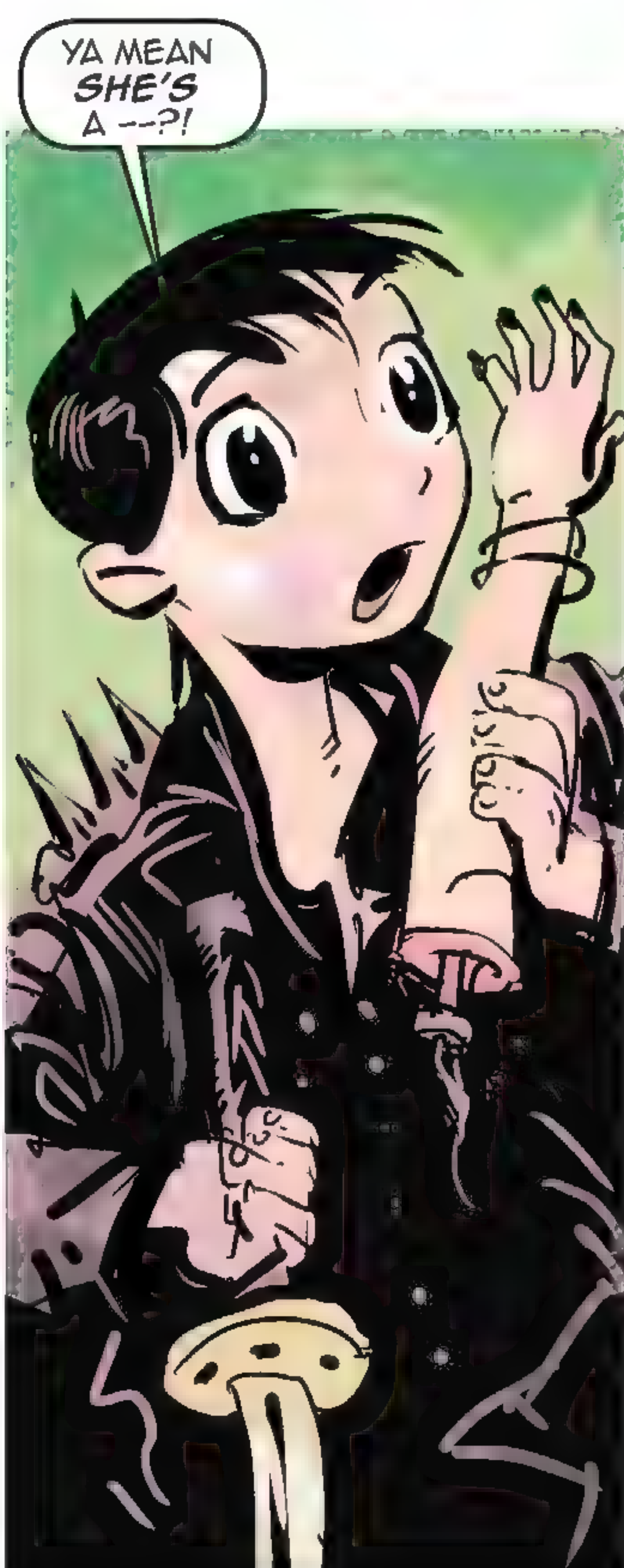
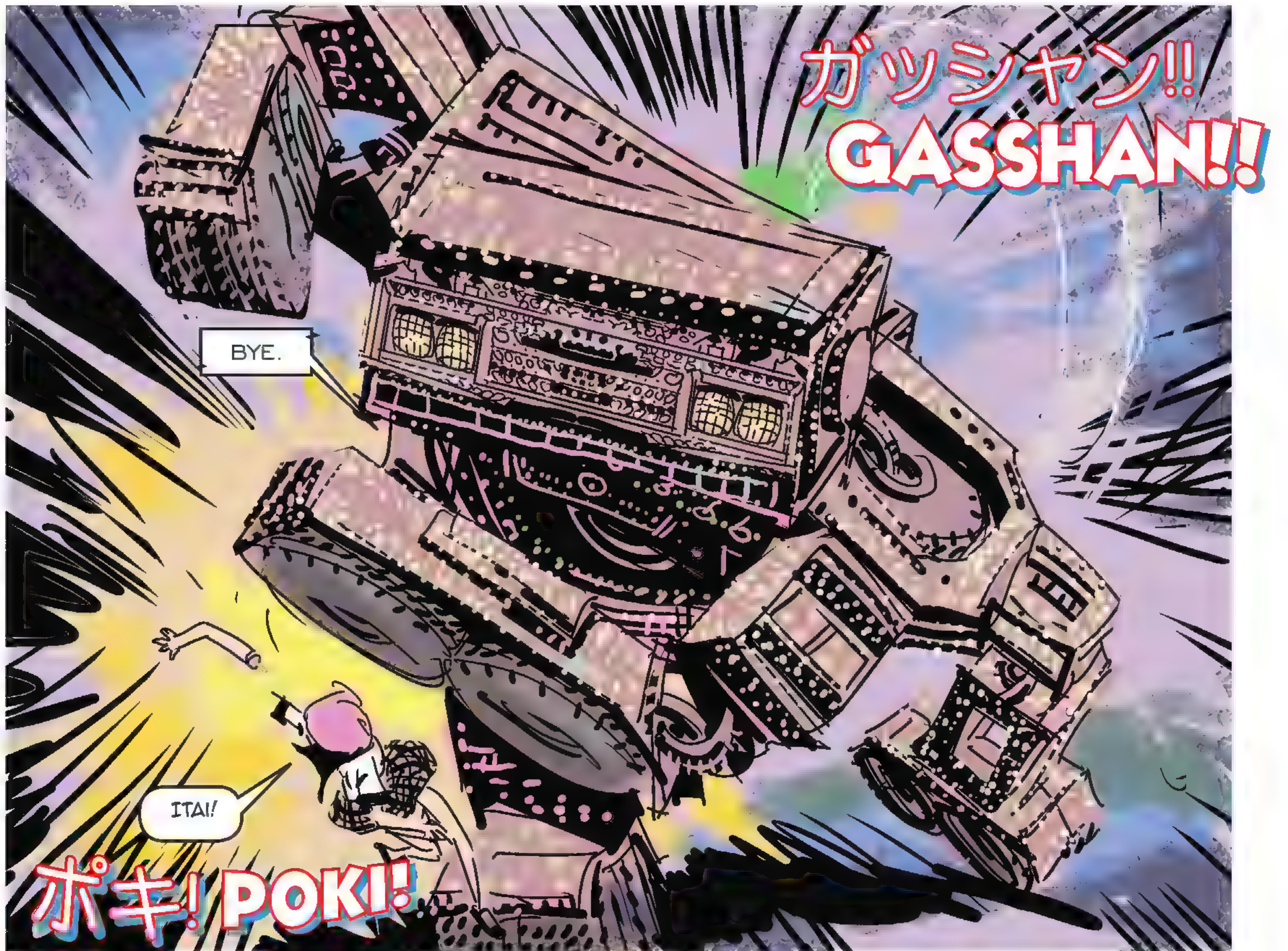
ドロン!!
DORON!!

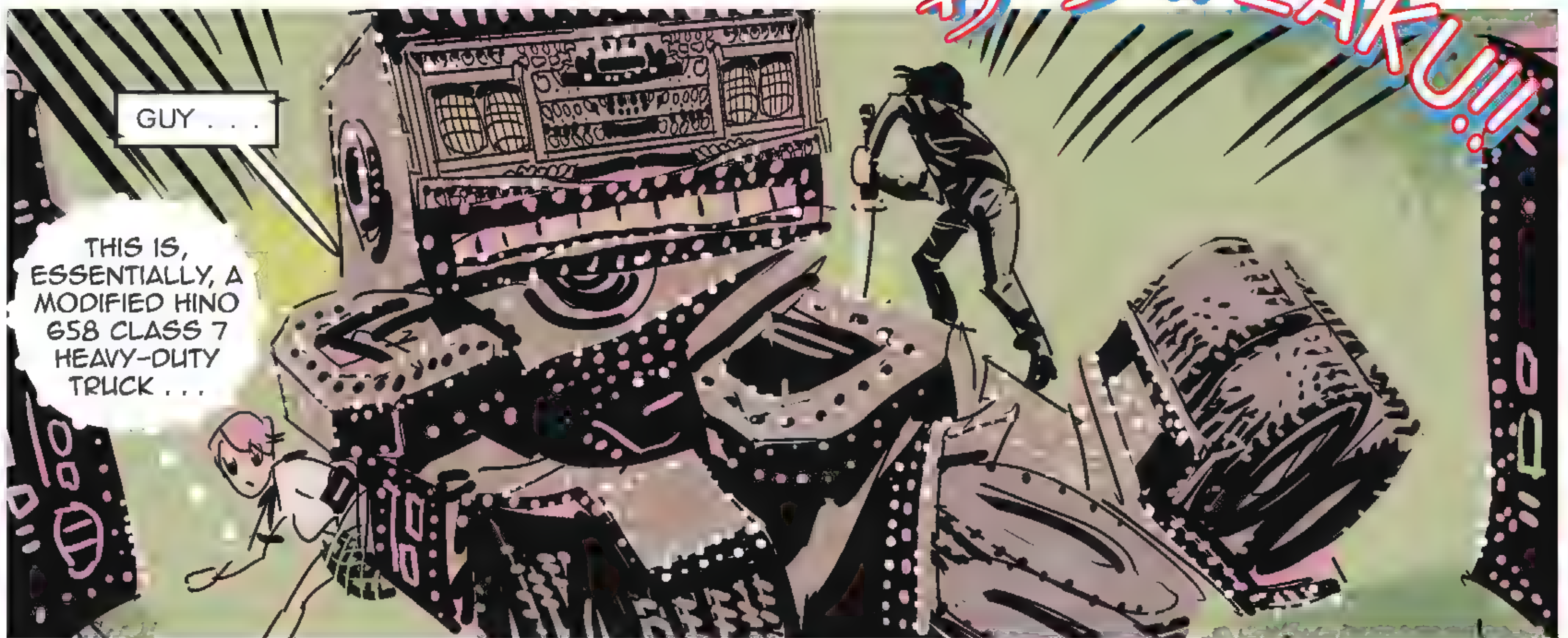
LADIES, PLEASE
STAND BACK.

チャッ!!
CHA!!

ATTENTION MACHINDERS! WE ARE ROBOT
KILLERS! WE ARE -- SUPER-DEFORMED!







GUY...

THIS IS, ESSENTIALLY, A MODIFIED HINO 658 CLASS 7 HEAVY-DUTY TRUCK...

ザク!! ZAKU!!



バァン!!
BAAN!!

IF I COULD JUST SEVER THE FUEL LINE -- BUT WHERE IS IT?

EVERYTHING MOVED AROUND WHEN IT TRANSFORMED.

AHA!

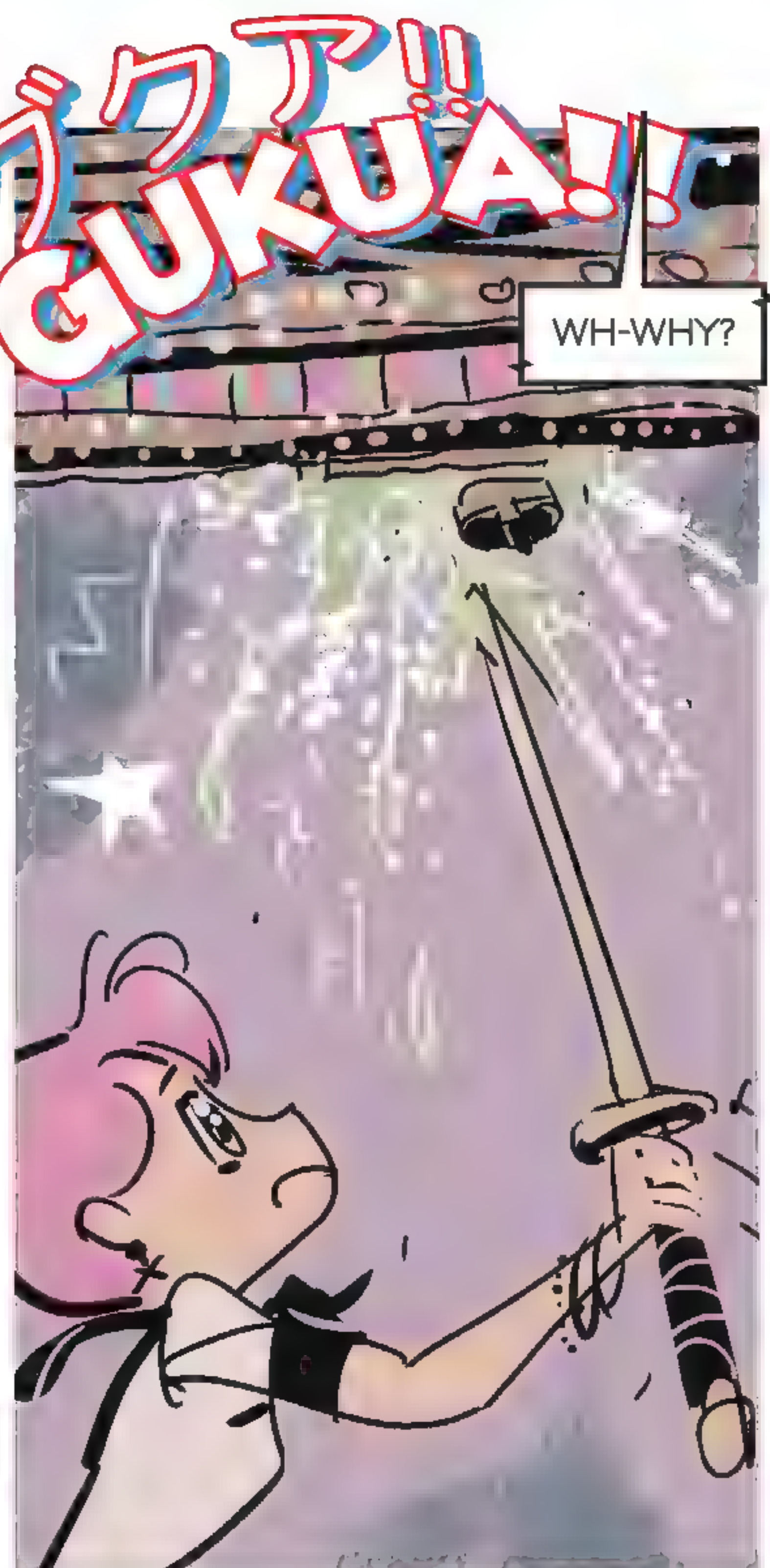


HOW MANY ROBOTS HAS THIS SWORD DESTROYED? ONE MORE, I HOPE!



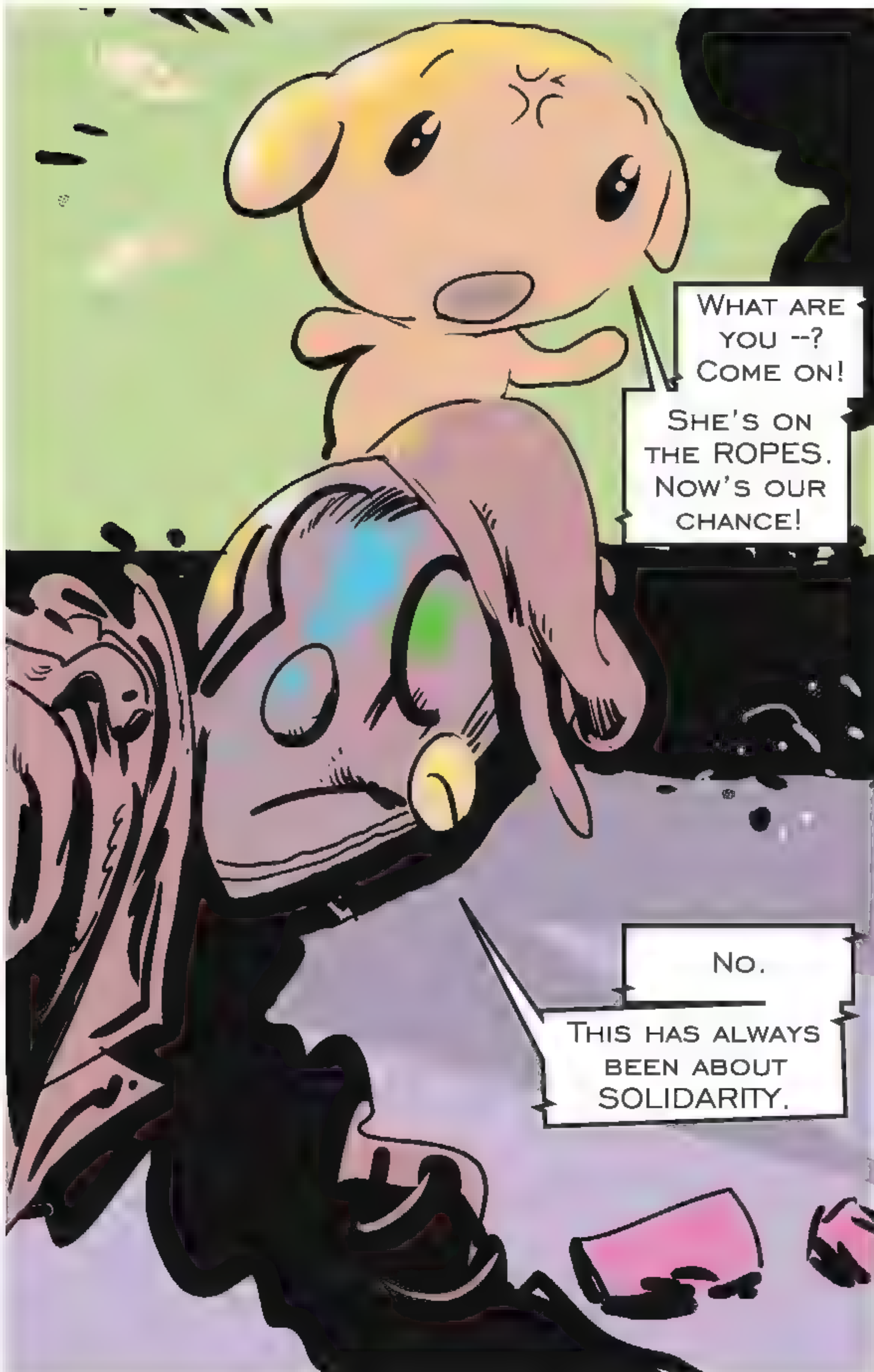
DOES THIS MEAN I'M NO DIFFERENT THAN BIGMOUTH?

DIE.



バクア!!
GUKUA!!

WH-WHY?



NEXT ISSUE



COMING IN JULY

MILLAR • ALBUQUERQUE

WHAT IF THE PERSON YOU
LEAST EXPECTED HAD
AN AMAZING SECRET?

JULY 2016

COLLECTING ISSUES 1-6

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SURVIVAL ISN'T JUST A HUMAN INSTINCT

HORIZON™

THOMAS GEDEON MARTIN ISSUE 01

07.13.16



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HIMSELF TO BE THE
GREATEST THIEF ON
EARTH, OR WILL HE
FIND HIMSELF SIXTY
FEET UNDER?

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VELVET DEADLY CLASS *THE FUSE*
LAZARUS **EAST OF WEST** I KILL GIANTS
THE WALKING DEAD I HATE FAIRYLAND
KING CITY *SEX CRIMINALS*

COPPERHEAD *THE HUMANS* **RATQUEENS**

SOUTHERN BASTARDS **SPAWN ORIGINS** THE WICKED + THE DIVINE
MONSTRESS **CHEW** *SPREAD*
NOWHERE MEN

HOWTOONS THEY'RE NOT LIKE US **SUNSTONE** MANIFEST DESTINY

DESCENDER *PAPER GIRLS*

OCTOPUS PIE WYTCHEs *SHUTTER*

TOKYO GHOST THE MANHATTAN PROJECTS **BITCH PLANET**

SAGA *CHRONONAUTS* **WAYWARD** *TREES*
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SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...
THIS MONSTER!"

